

Biography

Dennis J. Taitano
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Dennis J. Taitano is the Budget Division Director for USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). As Director, Mr. Taitano is FSA's top budget authority responsible for formulating, interpreting, and executing budgetary programs and policies of FSA and the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). Many FSA commodity and conservation programs are financed and administered through CCC, a wholly-owned government corporation. Others, such as farm loan programs and administrative support for FSA offices, are financed through FSA discretionary appropriations. Mr. Taitano oversees \$30 billion in borrowing authority for CCC-financed programs and a multi-billion-dollar budget for FSA discretionary programs.

Prior to accepting the FSA Budget Director position in May 2001, Mr. Taitano served in a variety of financial management positions in the Department of the Navy (DON) from 1982 to 2001.

From 1988 to 2001, Mr. Taitano held various DON Comptroller and Budget Officer management positions for the Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Ordnance Center, Naval Air System Command, and affiliated Program Executive Offices. In these positions, he was responsible for financial and budgetary administration, programming, and execution of assigned investment, operating, and working capital financed appropriation programs. Mr. Taitano oversaw budgets ranging from \$720 million to \$4.1 billion annually, personnel ranging from 2,500 to 49,000 annually, and assets valued as high as \$40 billion. During this time, he also provided advice for the development and implementation of strategic, business, and operating plans.

From 1999 to 2000, Mr. Taitano served as Special Advisor for the Defense Reform Initiative Office in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. During this appointment, he was in charge of monitoring the development and implementation of DOD financial management reform initiatives. From 1982 to 1988, he was a Navy Operations and Maintenance budget analyst in the Comptroller organizations of the Naval Air Systems Command and the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command.

Mr. Taitano received his Senior Executive Service (SES) Executive Qualification Certification in October 2000 from the Office of Personnel Management. He is a 1999 graduate of USDA's SES Candidate Development Program and has received numerous DON performance awards, including two Meritorious Civilian Service Medals.

Mr. Taitano, a native of Maryland, holds a Masters Degree in public financial management from The American University in Washington, D.C., and a Bachelor of Science Degree in business management and economics from the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland. Mr. Taitano and his wife Mary Kay have two daughters and one son and reside in La Plata, Maryland.